

THE MAGAZINE OF

THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

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Y 1964

# SPASTICS NEWS





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TW

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TC

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O

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TE

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O

Hull Group, The Friends of Spastics

Society in Hull and District

H

## LOCAL GROUPS

Leeds and District Spastics Society

O

Pontefract and District Spastics Assn.

Rawmarsh and Parkgate Spastics Society

Sheffield and District Spastics Soc.

TEOC

South Shields and District Spastics

Society

C

Sunderland and District Spastics

Society

CW

Tees-side Parents and Friends of Spastics

TE

York and District Spastics Group

TC

## Regional Officer:

R. J. F. Whyte, Royal Chambers,  
Station Parade, Harrogate. Tel.: 69655

## Regional Social Worker:

Miss B. P. Stephenson, same address

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and Handicapped Children's Society

C

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TEO

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TWC

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W

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Bolton and District Group

TE

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T

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TEO

Crosby and District Spastics Society

C

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Spastics Society

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TCE

Oldham & District Spastics Society

OCT

Preston and District Spastic Group

OCT

Sale, Altrincham and District Spastics

Society

RTEC

Southport, Formby and District Spastics

Society

H

Stockport, East Cheshire and High Peak

Spastics Society

TEOC

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TC

Warrington Group for the Welfare of

Spastics

O

Widnes Spastics Fellowship Group

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Manchester. Tel.: Blackfriars 6130

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TOWE

Bishop's Stortford and District Group,

Herts Spastics Society

E

Central Middlesex Spastics Welfare

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W

Clacton and District Group

Colchester and District Group

East Herts Group, Herts Spastics Society

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Essex Group

Harlow and District Branch

Hatfield and District Group, Herts

Spastics Society

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Herts Spastics Society

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Herts Spastics Society

Ilford, Romford and District Spastics

Association

O

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Group

TEC

## Chief Regional Officer:

A. M. Frank, M.C., M.A., 12 Park  
Cresc., London, W.1.

## Key:

T—Treatment Available

E—Education

O—Occupational Centre



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FRONT COVER PICTURE: Dick Boydell operates the new Possum Typewriter. (See article on page 6)

BACK COVER PICTURE: Sherrards packs the canister buried beneath the Foundation Stone at the new Birmingham Hostel

Maidenhead Friends of Spastics Group  
Oxfordshire Spastics Welfare Soc. **TOC**  
Reading and Berkshire Spastics Welfare Society **T**  
Slough and District Spastics Welfare Society  
Southend-on-Sea and District Spastics Society **OC**  
South-West Middlesex Group **T**  
St. Albans and District Group, Herts Spastics Society **T**  
Walthamstow and District Spastics Society  
Watford and District Group, Herts Spastics Society **TEOC**  
Welwyn Garden City and District Group, Herts Spastics Society  
Wycombe and District Spastics Society **T**

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North London Area Association of Parents and Friends of Spastics **T**  
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South-East London Group **T**  
South London Group  
South-West London and District Group

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W—Work Centre  
H—Holiday Home  
C—Child Care  
R—Residential Centre

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Croydon and District Branch **TEWC**  
East Sussex Group **TC**  
Folkestone and District Branch **H**  
Maidstone Area Spastic Group **OT**  
Medway Towns Branch **T**  
North Hants and West Surrey Group **TECO**  
North Surrey Group **W**  
North-West Kent Spastics Group **WO**  
North-West Surrey Group **TEC**  
South-East Surrey Spastics Group (Redhill) **TOC**  
South-West Surrey Group **TEC**  
Thanet Group  
Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge and Area Group  
West Kent Spastics Society, Incorporating Bromley and District Spastics Group **W**

**Regional Officer:**  
H. J. I. Cunningham 29b Linkfield Lane, Redhill, Surrey. Tel.: Redhill 3944 and 2250.

**Regional Social Worker:**  
Mrs. Chinchin, same address

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Southampton and District Spastics Association **TOWC**  
Swindon and District Spastic Society **H**  
Winchester and District Spastics Society

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Kenfig Hill and District Spastics Soc. **CTO**  
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Bridgwater and District Friends of Spastics Association **T**  
Bristol Spastics Association **CTOW**  
Cornish Spastics Society  
Exeter and Torbay Spastics Society **T**  
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Mrs. A. Mansel-Dyer, St. John House, 60 Staplegrove Road, Taunton, Somerset. Tel.: 81678

Jersey Spastic Society



# Royal Visit to Sunderland Centre

**P**UBLIC support for Royal Visits and Cup Matches remain strangely unaffected by the climate, and Sunderland has proved itself no exception to this rule. For within the span of 48 hours Sunderland had one of each, and in spite of a cold North Easterly from Siberia the public turned out in their tens of thousands to provide the colour and support that only the British public know how to give. No sooner had a thousand voices roared in support, albeit in vain, of their own local team than a thousand more took up the theme to welcome their Royal Visitor; and this time no one was "locked out"! His Royal Highness, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh was paying an official visit to this growing Co. Durham town.

The sun and the Duke arrived at about the same moment. His first visit of the morning was to the recently developed Sunderland Spastics Centre in the grounds of Havelock Hospital. An attractive, rather impressive, and on this particular morning spotless building was waiting for him. An anxious staff, an excited complement of adult spastic workers and a crowd of loyal subjects waited with it. But the atmosphere of expectancy did not tell the story of almost feverish activity of the days before, of the last minute arrangements, of the things forgotten and remembered in time, of the tremendous volume of work undertaken by the centre's staff, workers and members of the local committees to ensure that this memorable visit would, in truth, be memorable. Those on their way to a late bed would have observed an industrious activity in the centre until the small hours; those up for an early start to the day would have noticed surprisingly prolific



*H.R.H. Prince Philip admires a tapestry picture which was later presented to him*

spring flowers where hours before were empty garden beds.

But by 10.19 a.m. all was ready; police almost as numerous as the crowds waiting were there too to ensure that the "threat" to kidnap the Royal Visitor—a "threat" associated with the local students' Rag Day—was not carried out. At 10.20 a.m. precisely the Duke arrived and his 29-minute visit began. Senior members of the centre staff and members of the Management Committee were presented to His Royal Highness who was accompanied by County and County Borough dignitaries. Dr. C. P. Stevens, Director of The Spastics Society, and Mr. Derek Lancaster-Gaye, Local Centres Secretary, were also presented as representatives of the Society.

## Children's Unit

The formalities over and the centre declared officially open by Prince Philip, there followed a tour of the centre's activities. For the child care section the Duke, and indeed the visitors and the Press, showed a special interest. This unit, which provides day care for up to 10 nursery age children as a form of parent relief, is a service only recently introduced. Support for this service suggests that provision of this type will expand considerably in the future.

## Adult Work Unit

The adult work unit, with some 15 spastic workers already in daily attendance, was clearly of close interest to the Royal Visitor, who spoke with many of the workers and was shown the range of metal coat hangers



*(Photographs: Courtesy Sunderland Echo)*

*In the Children's Unit*





*Making coathangers in the Work Unit*

and wall ties which are at the moment the centre's principal outlet. It is uncertain who was the more impressed, the Duke with the ingenuity of the jigs devised by the Centre's Manager, Mr. Bury, or the workers with the Duke's jovial but keen interest in the work. Had time allowed, one was left with the impression that Prince Philip would have sought to discuss the whole question of work for the handicapped to a far greater degree. One suspects, too, that the operatic reception given to the Duke by some of the ladies of the centre would have developed into large-scale grand opera.

And on the appointed moment the Duke was gone—all that remained was the washing up. Perhaps not quite all; for the Local Society which has done so much to achieve this centre, for the general public of Sunderland many of whom did not know of this service, and above all for the workers for whom the centre has provided a sense of purpose and a dignity, the Royal Visit will provide a talking point for many years to come and a "flip" for the future.

*D.L.G.*

## Lord Mayor of Birmingham Lays Foundation Stone

Hostel  
for  
Workshop



*(Photograph: Courtesy of Birmingham Post)*

ON 17th March the Right Worshipful Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Alderman Louis Glass, laid the foundation stone of the £380,000 hostel to be built beside a new sheltered workshop in Birmingham. The total cost of this major project will be £700,000.

Buried beneath the foundation stone is a canister containing pamphlets describing the Society's work, the Annual Report, the Spastics News and the Birmingham newspapers of that date, and a piece of jewellery made by a spastic homemaker.



# POSSUM—I CAN

by Dick Boydell

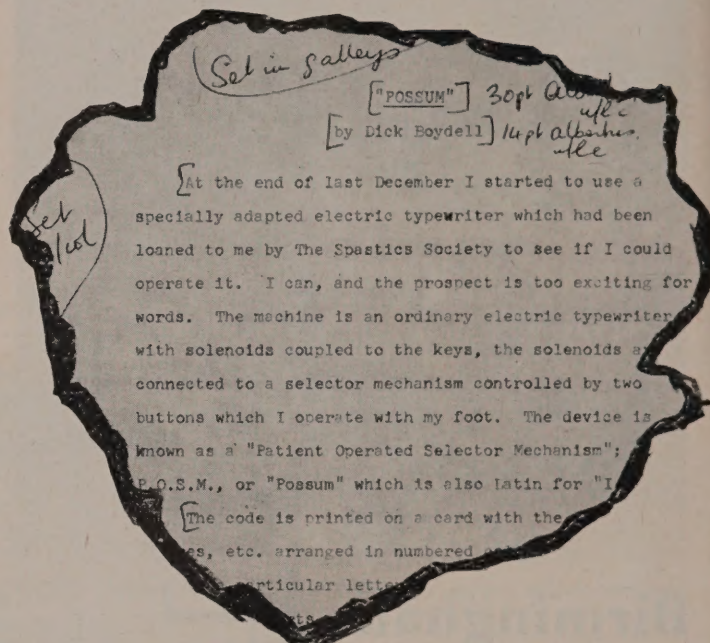
AT the end of last December I started to use a specially adapted electric typewriter which had been loaned to me by the Spastics Society to see if I could operate it. I can, and the prospect is too exciting for words. The machine is an ordinary electric typewriter with solenoids coupled to the keys, the solenoids are connected to a selector mechanism controlled by two buttons which I operate with my foot. The device is known as a "Patient Operated Selector Mechanism"—P.O.S.M., or "Possum", which is also Latin for "I am able".

## Code Card

The code is printed on a card with the letters, figures, etc. arranged in numbered columns and rows. To type a particular letter I press the first button and the machine starts clicking. When the number of clicks has reached the number of the column, I release the first button and press the second one to select the row in the same way. When I release the second button the machine immediately types and re-sets itself ready to select the next letter.

POSSUM - TYPEWRITER GRID 1

8	*	&	''	TAB	B/S	
	2	7	'			
7	K	Q	\$	)	%	Z
			6	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	
6	W	V	J	£	(	+
				5	9	—
5	U	M	B	:	@	$\frac{3}{4}$
				;	4	8
4	R	D	Y	?	X	/
				,		3
3	Caps	N	C	F	.	—
						—
2	T	A	S	H	P	G
1	Space	E	O	I	L	Ca. Ret.
	1	2	3	4	5	6



Having memorised the code I typed the same group of five letters over and over again to practice counting the clicks and releasing the buttons at the right time, then I did some of the copy-typing exercises in Pitman's "Standard Typewriting Course (Elementary)" by Maxwell Crooks—which I find very helpful. A fortnight after I had the machine I typed my first letter.

The only difficulty I had in learning to control the machine was releasing the buttons after the right number of clicks. This is particularly important with the second button; a mistake with the first one can be corrected but not with the second because the machine types as soon as it is released. When I found difficulty in counting correctly for certain letters I made up a group of these and practised it. While I was getting used to the machine I found it essential to be alone because I needed to concentrate.

Very soon I hope to get a different selector, controlled by four buttons, which will make typing much faster.

Having this typewriter means a great deal to me because, for the first time in my life I am able to communicate with people who have similar interests to my own. Although at the moment I find composing and typing letters slow work, I hope that with more practice and with the faster control I will take much less time in the future.

I would like to end by expressing my thanks to Mr. Maling, who invented the machine, and to the Society's Appliance Officer, who suggested I might be able to use it.



# The Inclined Board

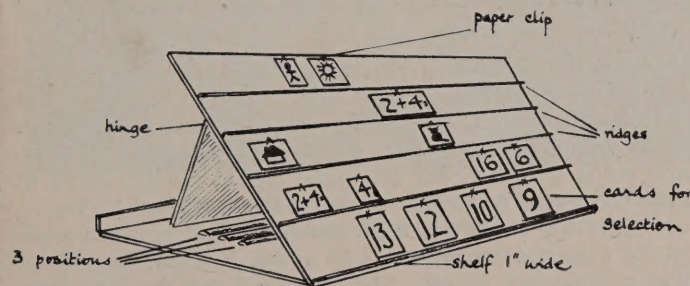
by E. M. Nix-James

Long-standing readers of the 'Spastics News' will remember Mrs. Nix-James, who was Teacher at the Poole, Bournemouth and District Spastic Centre and who has devised several very useful teaching aids using magnets. Mrs. Nix-James is now in Australia, teaching for a couple of years at the Sydney Centre. This article describes her latest invention to help spastic children learn.

THE Board is made of  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. wood, it is thus heavy and solid enough to withstand hard usage, and cannot easily be pushed over.

The board can stand on the child's tray or desk, and can be adjusted to three positions according to the degree of inclination required.

The board has four rows of beading or "Ridges" running horizontally along the length 4 in. apart, and a narrow shelf 1 in. wide is fixed along the bottom edge to hold the cards to be selected.



The board measures 2 ft. 6 in. by 16 in., it is hinged at the bottom edge to a flat piece of wood 2 ft. 6 in. by 12 in., and a strut is hinged behind the board to fit into three ribs on the flat wood.

Cards may be slipped along each ridge to their correct position or tucked into place with the hand or with a magnet fixed onto the pointer of a headpiece. If a magnet is used a metal clip must be fixed to each card. An ordinary paper clip is satisfactory.

## Uses of the Inclined Board

These are many and varied, for example:

(1) Pictures of objects are placed one on each ridge, the child selects the matching letter or word from the bottom shelf, and places it besides the correct picture.

(2) A simple illustrated story is cut out of a child's book, the pictures and sentences are mounted on cards. One picture is placed on each ridge and the child selects the right sentence from the shelf at the bottom of the board and places it by the picture. This can be done

easily with the magnet and head pointer if the child cannot use his hands. When finished the whole story can be read from the board. If a child has no speech this is a good way to test out whether he can read and understand what he reads.

(3) Cards can be sorted out and placed in alphabetical order or in group order as required.

(4) One action picture can be placed on each ridge, and separate words put on the under shelf. The child then selects each individual word and places them by the picture to make a sentence about it.

(5) Number work can be treated in the same way, the correct answer card is selected and put by the sum on the ridge.

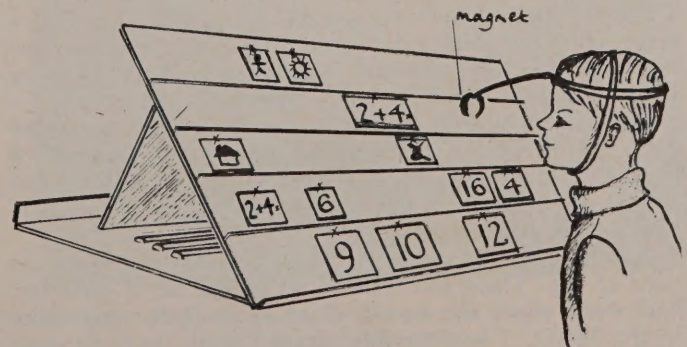
(6) Spelling practice. Individual letters selected and placed on the ridge to make the words required.

## The Use of a Magnet and Headpiece with the Inclined Board

A leather headpiece is buckled round the child's head. This has a metal pointer sticking out in front. A magnet is fixed to the end of this pointer. A paper clip is placed on each card used and in this way the child who cannot use either hand, is able to pick up and place the cards by himself.

A magnet can alternatively be fitted onto a hand splint and used in the same way.

A magnet can also be fitted onto a sandal and be used by the foot in the same way, placing the board on the floor.





### The Advantages of the Inclined Board

- (1) While working the child is sitting in the correct position and is not bent over his table or desk.
- (2) The child can get on with his work unaided and has something worthwhile to show on completion.
- (3) The child is thus independent and can DO IT HIMSELF in cases where it might be impossible in any other way, due to clumsy hands or slippery desks or immobile arms, etc.
- (4) The work having been part completed, the board can be put to one side if necessary, and work can be resumed later without any inconvenience.
- (5) The space behind the inclined surface can be used for keeping extra cards and envelopes, etc. while the child is working.
- (6) When a child drools a lot, his work never gets wet if he uses the board. Nothing is more annoying to the child or teacher than having work spoilt through involuntary drooling.

## "Wider Horizons"

A two-monthly magazine written for and by its handicapped readers. Annual subscription 4s. 3d., post free.

Write to the Secretary, Mrs. M. Beck, Beechwood, St. John's Avenue, Tyler's Green, PENN, Bucks.

## I Remember

IT is always difficult to begin to write. But as I am calling this "I Remember" it should be easy—everything is true.

I am an old lady once decribed as "PLASTIC". My earliest memory is of my father teaching me cricket in the bedroom! The bat and ball were of the table tennis sort: the wicket was my mother's hand-mirror. I must have been about two-and-a-half.

I was born in Fulham, but cannot remember much before three or four years old. This was when I first felt really old, no longer being allowed to ride on the camel's neck, at the zoo, but having to go on his back. It was a very comfortable seat though, between the two humps. We then lived at Ravenscourt Park in a road leading down to the river and I delighted in throwing stones into it. These I collected from the garden and usually our cat, a large white one, accompanied us. My aunt took me most mornings and the cat would stand with his front paws on the low wall looking extremely interested in the splashes.

One day I slipped out early and fell just outside the gate, scattering stones over the pavement. Crowds of people, I thought, gathered round, all in black skirts and helped me collect the stones. My mother told me afterwards there were only two!

About this time my father used to take me to see an aunt of his. Once she insisted on giving me a dress she had worn when she was a child—I imagine somewhere in the 1840's. I was terribly afraid I might have to wear



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it, my father took it so seriously, but when we got home he and my mother laughed so that was all right.

It is strange how little things stay in one's mind for so many years. I remember watching my mother ironing, and being so afraid her left hand would not get away in time before the one with the iron came along!

One of my aunts was a private nurse and between cases would sometimes have me stay at her Fulham flat, which was a great joy to me. She once told me she had been nursing an old gentleman. Nursing to me at that time (four or five years old) only meant sitting on someone's lap and I thought he must have been heavy.

She had books of great artists' pictures, which I never tired of looking through. That was the time of the horse buses. Motor-buses were starting and I hated them. The roads were not properly made and the tyres often exploded. But I loved to walk along the Fulham Road when the lights were alight, especially when it was wet and all reflected in the puddles. There was a little park or sports ground near the river I enjoyed very much. The smell of cut grass, river mud and a brewery!

It was my ambition to become an actress, and for the next ten years or so I learned all kinds of bits and pieces. Some of the nicest children I have ever known came to live next door, and we used to play at theatres with the kitchen table for our stage, often two of us as actors and one as audience, or vice versa. The other children were half Armenian and a lovely egg-shell brown. I felt hard-done-by because they were allowed to climb in and out of windows and I was not.

Miss M. Lewis.

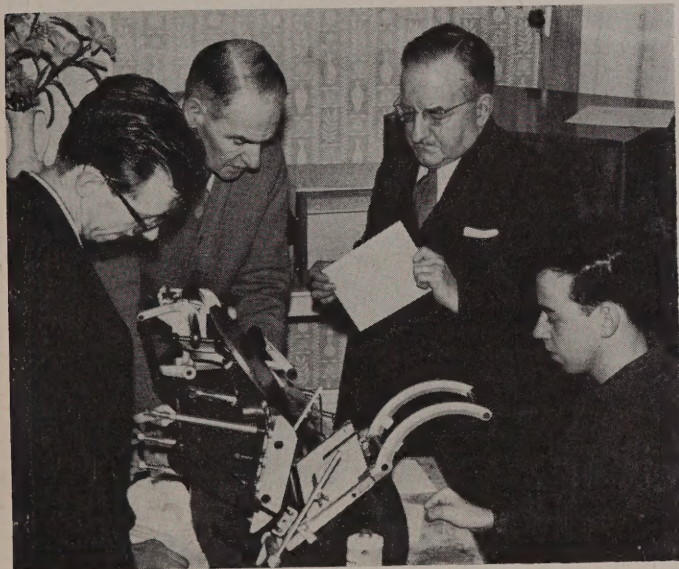
(To be continued)



# PRINTERS PREPARE

## *Instruction Course at the Arundel*

FOR the second time in its history the Arundel Hotel was the scene of an Instruction Course, again for the purpose of teaching young men the principles of using specially adapted printing machines in order that they could help produce the Society's Christmas Cards.



*Frank Strong, Peter Green and Mr. Martin studying the specially adapted Adana Printing Machine*

Because of the success of the Christmas Card printing scheme it has become necessary to increase the number of workers in order to produce a greatly increased number of cards, Spastics Cards Ltd. having advised us that they were likely to require at least  $1\frac{1}{4}$  million cards this year. What better place for training to take place than at the Arundel Hotel? Miss Burden, the Manageress, and the Management Committee were more than willing to allow us to set up seven printing machines in No. 1 bedroom. Adana Ltd., who make the machines, most kindly loaned us Mr. Radford, their head printer, in order that we would have the benefit of expert knowledge and tuition.

It may not be known that printing involves a seven-year apprenticeship. You can well imagine the surprise on the faces of the young men who were selected to attend the Course when they were told this and, in the next breath, told that they would have to learn a very great deal about printing in five days, but at the end of that time we would expect first-class work! Not only had the machines to be mastered, but also a completely new vocabulary such as

corner stones, furniture, quads, ems, etc., but because it always takes such a short time to settle down at the Arundel, our students very quickly concentrated on the work and put in an eight-hour working day with some overtime at night too. Mr. Cox was asked to use his ingenuity to make modifications to the machines as required. Sherrards also played its part in supplying the special work tables.

One of the most gratifying results was that some of the students were able to manage compositing, and this means that they will be able to undertake work other than the printing of Christmas cards, in their own homes, work that can quite easily open up a completely new horizon for them—printing dance tickets, letterheadings, etc.

At the end of the course Mr. Radford was asked to state whether he thought the printers would be able to cope sufficiently well, and we are very pleased to report that all our printers have passed with distinction.

A highlight of the Course was when members of the Southend '62 Club turned up in strength to make a very happy last evening.

*W. M. C. Hargreaves.*



*Mr. Radford from Adana Ltd. instructing Peter Green in the art of compositing*



# Work Centre and Home for North-West Spastics



THIS stately home known as Scalesceugh Hall, Carleton, Nr. Carlisle, and reputed to be one of Cumberland's most elegant buildings of the early twentieth century, has recently been purchased by the Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness Spastics Society, and will soon become a Residential Home for Spastics in the north-west.

Scalesceugh Hall (pronounced Scaleskiff, did you wonder? Or less often, Scalescew) is a magnificent property standing in 6 acres of ornamental and wooded grounds about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Carlisle.

It is extremely suitable and easily adaptable for its new purpose, and in this parkland setting the Society will provide a real home atmosphere and environment for up to 30 spastic men and women aged 16 years and upwards.

The Centre will provide an opportunity for employment within the ability of spastics who can work and do a job quite well, but at a slower pace than that expected in open industry. Provision will also be made to accommodate the Society's "Home Employed" when the need arises.

The type of work within the Home will include sub-contracts from industry with some horticultural and occupational work as well. It will be necessary to carry out some minor adaptations, and a complete reconstruction of the kitchen, but it is hoped that by the end of the year Scalesceugh Hall's doors will have been opened to the first of its residents.

The purchase of Scalesceugh Hall memorably marks a milestone in the history of the Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness Society. It is just 10 years since the Society

became a registered Charity under the National Assistance Act, 1948. Since there has been a tremendous response to its appeals for funds, and 16 very active support groups have become well known for their fund-raising activities throughout the area.

The money subscribed during this decade of service has put the Society well in the forefront of organisations working for the benefit of handicapped people. Its first project was to set the wheels in motion for an established Residential School for Spastics in the north-west, and Irton Hall, Holmrook, Cumberland, was purchased by the Society and given to the Spastics Society to develop. Its second project was to make available a Holiday Home and provide free holidays for the local spastic population. This has proved a very worthwhile venture and is now open to spastics from everywhere in the country at very modest charges.

With the introduction of this new venture at Scalesceugh Hall, the Society can justly claim to have spent the public's money wisely and to good effect, both in establishments that provide opportunities for spastics to adjust their lives for a fuller and more purposeful future, and through the organised welfare service that is available to every family with a spastic dependant living in this area.

The need for increased financial help and support is inevitable and the local Society is looking forward to a record response to appeals and money-raising efforts that are planned for the coming months.

*L. Stephenson,*



# News

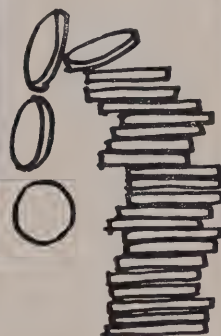
## in brief

### COPPER BONANZA IN GLASGOW PUB

(Photograph: Courtesy Glasgow Record)

There were 11,000 pennies in a column 4½ feet high at the Mally Arms, Eglinton Street, Glasgow.

Pretty Kim Fishwick came along to push them over, and £46 went into the Scottish Spastics Fund



### Liverpool:



(Photograph: Courtesy Liverpool Echo)

Mr. Jim Chambers collects money for Liverpool spastics by giving youngsters rides on a hobby-horse in his shop, at 1d. a time



Members of "The Boys" Rhythm Group, of Castleford, helped to entertain spastics and their parents at a recent social gathering

(Photograph: Courtesy Wakefield Express)



**ELECTION YEAR, and of the spastic population of Great Britain over 50,000 will be of an age to vote. Some are already decided in their views . . .**

## **Why I Support Labour**

**by Bernard Brett**

**B**RTAIN has a great future. A Labour Government with vision can lead the nation into the second industrial revolution. During the last twelve years there has been progress on many fronts, but it has been slow and halting. Many rich opportunities have been missed, and Britain is failing to hold her share of world trade and progress.

Labour is determined to build a healthy society and not just an affluent one. Labour can meet the demands of the new age which is dawning. People want and need more money in their pockets, but it is just as important to raise the quality of life and enable everyone to know the wealth of experience which should be open to all regardless of how fat or thin their wallets are. Far too many doors are still closed to people who do not happen to have certain backgrounds. Bigger pay-packets mean little if prices rise, and a rising standard of living must be coupled with a policy to give people wider opportunities in work and life.

Maybe Socialism is idealistic, but thank God it is, in this age of materialism. If there had been no idealists, we would today probably still have had the slave trade, child labour in our factories, and all the cruel poverty of the last century.

The present Government claims that our social and welfare services have never been better. This is true, but they have not developed at all since the last Labour Government introduced their revolutionary reforms in welfare services.

There has been only limited progress in the provision of services for the disabled by public authorities. If very strong and virile voluntary societies such as the Spastics Society and the Polio Fellowship had not grown up in

the last decade, the plight of thousands of handicapped children and adults would have been terrible.

In many countries in Europe disabled persons receive a State pension of more than £5 per week. All sorts of services exist, including special housing projects, to enable them to lead as full and active lives as possible. In Britain the National Assistance Board can only give disabled persons living at home £3 15s. 0d. a week and only the blind and the war-disabled receive more, including home help when necessary. Many helpless polio victims live in hospitals costing the nation £30 per week when they and their families want them at home, but are prevented because welfare authorities cannot help pay for looking after them in their own homes.

Labour is committed to improving services and welfare amenities for all kinds of disabled and needy people: more help to parents of handicapped children including a wider range of home-help services. Disabled persons will be helped to find jobs; special houses and hostels will be built. Hardly any exist today.

Ten million people today live in depressed conditions, whether from old age, poor housing, disablement or lack of education. This is Britain today as shown by Professor Peter Townsend. Extreme poverty may exist no more, but this country can, and must, rid the community of material hardship. This is the duty of the next Government and it will be done best under Labour.

Whichever way disabled persons, their families and friends, vote in the coming election, they must make **THEIR VOTES TALK** to the politicians. By using their electoral rights and asking candidates questions, handicapped people can further their own and others' welfare, in our common goal to build a better, happier Britain.

## **Why I Vote Conservative**

**by Ernest Barnes**

**I** THINK that with spastics half the reason why we vote one way or the other is the influence of the opinion of one's family and friends in earlier life. The luckier ones like myself are able to take part in propaganda and "join the Party" more for the fun of it than anything else. It is only when one leaves the home environment to live in a Centre and meet people from industrial areas (my home is in rural Norfolk) that we begin to think more of the political pros and cons.

Here we must really look at the two systems of Government, bearing in mind that the spastic has to rely upon the goodwill of all political parties. I believe that the spastic benefits more from the capitalistic system, because of the very nature of it, to conserve one part of it one has to conserve the whole. True Socialism is an idealistic dream, prevented from working by human nature itself, and the nearest that we can hope to get is a sort of Robin Hood act, where things are taken from the Haves and given

to the Have-nots, so that in the end nobody has anything to call their own. In a capitalistic system it has become essential to give the Have-nots a certain amount.

Take for example the story of Robinson Crusoe. All things on his island were his own, not perhaps by legal right, but by acquisition. His inventiveness created things for his own use, and all the animals became his own. One can imagine his consternation when he found the footprints in the sand. He made Man Friday his servant, and there is no doubt that this black man, and also the other living creatures on the island, benefited from Robinson's initiative. But supposing a lot of Man Fridays landed on the island, they would have liquidated poor Robinson, and then grabbed everything he had to share between them. After a while some would want what the others had, and they would fight, and eventually there would be only one left, and he would be without the initiative or brains of Robinson, and thus he would die.



Here we have a good example of what is, in my opinion, the two basic systems of Government in this country, and we have to make up our minds which is the better over a long term. Some forms of Communism (which can be more honest than our present form of Socialism) recognise men and women of initiative and creative ability should be paid more than others, thus introducing a form of capitalism.

As for spastics ourselves, just think what it would be

like if the Society were nationalised. Centres would become hide-bound with luxury standardisation. Wardens who work the backsides out of their trousers for us would become suffocated by red tape, and we, the Residents, would become numbers on a graph.

I think all party politics are evil; let us therefore vote for the lesser of the two evils, and survive! One day we might have a Government of spastics, then the world would wake up!

# Why I Am A Liberal



by **Doreen James**

I AM a Liberal because I was brought up amongst Liberals. The Liberal Party is as alive today as it ever was. Indeed, it is the very backbone of the House of Commons. It is steady as a rock.

It is through the Liberals that we have the Welfare State. The Health Scheme was brought into force in 1948 by the Labour Government, who thought it was such a good scheme that they adopted it, and passed it off as their own, but the idea came from the Liberals. In some cases it is the minority who rule.

I am a spastic. What has any Government in the past done for spastics and many other handicapped people like myself? Ten years ago no one knew what a spastic was, though there must have been spastics being born from the year dot. Yet it had to wait for a Liberal to conceive the idea of a Welfare State before the millions of handicapped people throughout our land could obtain

the help that was so sorely needed. Today, thanks be to God and the Society, if a child is born a spastic he will be given an equal chance to live a full and useful life with his well brothers and sisters.

We have much to thank the Liberal Party for. Why, the very word Liberal means open-handed, generous, not sparing.

It has been my experience that if a man goes to a socialist for practical help he is only too ready to give free advice and very little else. Socialists very rarely practice what they preach. There are exceptions of course. If a Liberal was asked for practical help he would put his hand in his pocket first and offer advice afterwards. A Conservative would ask what percentage he could get on a loan. I am convinced that all men with money, whatever their political views, are capitalists at heart. It is human nature.

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# RECORD STAR SHOW



(Photograph: Courtesy Daily Express)

Joe Brown and two of his "bruvvers"

THE great Star Show for spastics scored its usual screaming success at Wembley this year, despite breakdowns of every possible variety. David Jacobs handled it all without turning a hair, even when the instruments of the Dave Clark Five turned up missing (they arrived before the end).

Old Home Week in the audience and a riot of colour and sound on the stage—mustard suits, purple suits, pink shirts and pale blue—not a quiet moment anywhere except when Joe Brown took the house with his 12-string guitar version of "All Things Bright and Beautiful".

Programme sellers included Maudie Edwards, David Kossoff, John Le Mesurier, Avril Angers and Tony Wright, among many other stars, and Jill Brown of "Emergency Ward 10" had to be rescued by the police before the fans enveloped her completely. Betty and Jack Howarth filled a big plastic bucket with money in exchange for hundreds of autographs.

The ice under the middle stalls didn't give way under the jumping, stamping feet, but just about everything else exciting happened that roaring, successful evening.

## permanent — homemade handles in VINAGEL

Permanent handles for cutlery and some tools. A new material, which is supplied as a soft putty like substance, and easily cured in a domestic oven at a low temperature (325° F., for 15 minutes for every ¼ in. thickness). When cured, this material is resistant to boiling water and detergents, and to alkalis and weak acids found in food. Available in three grades, VG. 116 terracotta, VG 118 white or pink.

Post free 1 lb., 9s.; 2 lb., 16s. 3d.; 3 lb., 23s. 6d.

TIRANTI: 72 Charlotte Street, London, W.1

## Maidstone Spastics Help at Canterbury Exhibition

TWO spastic girls from the Maidstone Group, Miss Joan Colechin and Miss Pat Dixon, became demonstrators recently at a Spastics Society Exhibition in Riceman's Store, Canterbury. They made and sold jewellery.



Pat (above) and Joan (right), who made the Riceman's exhibition such a success



Both girls attend the Maidstone Treatment Centre: Joan is one of the Society's Homeworkers, and keeps house for her father. Pat has just finished a successful Office Training Course at the Stockport branch of Chester Centre.

H. J. I. Cunningham.



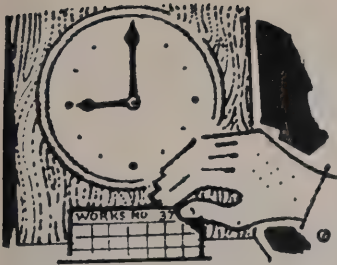
## Secretary to the Sembal Trust

THE 6½ million members of the Friends of Spastics League have made possible, not only much of the astonishing and adventurous work of the Spastics Society, but also the Sembal Trust, formed at the request of members of the League to give help in other fields of need.

Both these charities, by the support of the League, have enormously increased their work and service. Among other grants, the Sembal Trust has given £100,000 to Edinburgh University to support a General Practice Teaching Unit, unique in the world; £250,000 to the Institute of Child Health; very substantial grants to children's charities; and £100,000 for research into the causes of blindness under the Sembal Professor of experimental ophthalmology at London University.

The Trustees of the Sembal Trust have now appointed a Secretary to expedite their work and strengthen the range of help they can give. He is Admiral Sir Alexander Bingley, G.C.B., O.B.E., former Fifth Sea Lord. Admiral Bingley, who is President of the Royal Naval Benevolent Institution, is interested in social problems and particularly the hardships which face elderly people.





# SPASTICS AT WORK

**Peter Hawkins** from Hatfield, who trained at Sherrards is employed in the Machine Shop of a firm in St. Albans.

**David Holbourn** from Orpington who trained at Sherrards is now working for a Property Corporation in Petts Wood.

**Archibald Kerry** of Redditch has changed his job and is now working as a plastic bench hand in a local factory.

**George Linford** from Romford who attended a recent Assessment Course has obtained a new job as a Tickopres Operator.

**John Mooney** from Widnes who attended a recent Assessment Course and is awaiting a vacancy at Sherrards is employed temporarily as a messenger for a hospital at Prescot.

**Lorraine Passby** from Goring-by-Sea who recently completed her training at Sherrards is employed by an Electronics Firm in Worthing.

**Elizabeth Richards** from Yeovil who recently finished her training at the Chester Office Training Centre, has commenced work as a filing clerk for a local firm.

**Iris Taylor** from London has obtained a post as Book-keeper for a trial period following her training at Queen Elizabeth's, Leatherhead.

**Douglas Thrower** from Plaistow is working as a cleaner/messenger at the Staff residence of St. Bartholomew's College, Charterhouse Square.

**Christopher Barnes** from Cirencester has been working for some time in the Radio and Television Workshop of a local firm. He was given leave of absence to go on the Assessment Course Cruise in March.

**Ann Bentley** from Airedale has changed her job following an operation on her leg, and is now working as an Addressograph Operator for a local Glass manufacturer.

**Robert Cullen** from Wokingham who trained at Sherrards is employed for a trial period by the School of Electronic Engineers at Arborfield.

**Barry Donlon** from Glossop, who trained at the Chester Office Training Centre, has commenced work as a Tickopres Operator for a firm in Hyde.

**Mavis Foster** from Leeds has changed her job and is now working locally as a Tickopres Operator.



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SPASTICS

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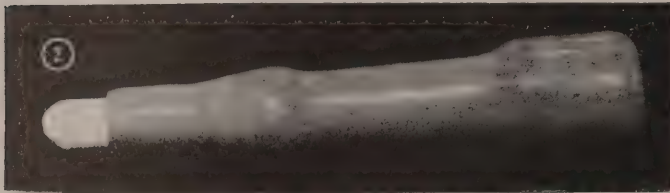
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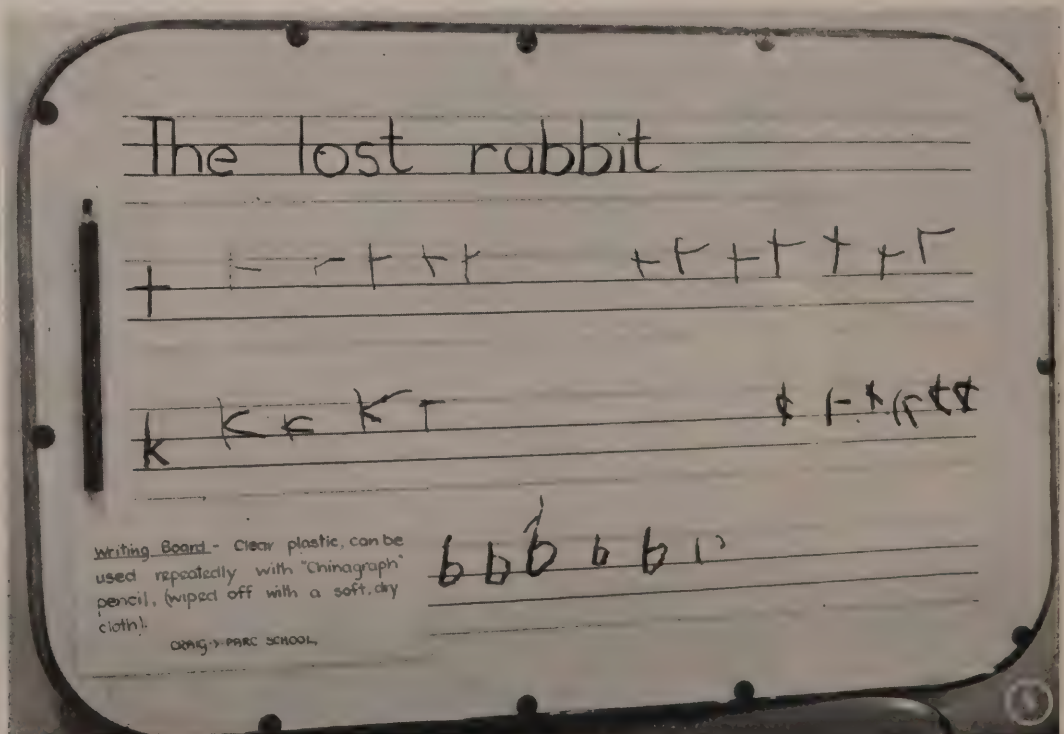


# Gimmicks for Spastics

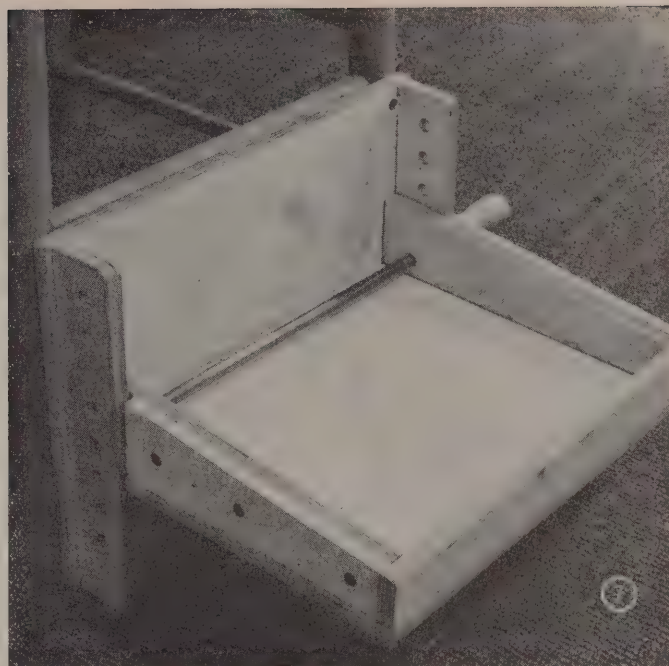


(Photographs: Ian Clook)

(1) Woolworth toy ball stuck on paintbrush handle, for better grip. Two of the existing holes can be enlarged easily with a file or knife, to take the handle. (2) Chalk fitted into nozzle of tap-hose. This makes it possible to hold the chalk with the fist instead of the fingers. (3) & (4) Rounded perspex handle for better grip. You can make them yourself if you're clever with shaping perspex, or buy them for 4s. 6d. each from the Red Cross. Fork and spoon ref. 140/30. Knife ref. 241/96







(Photographs: Ian Clook)

(5) Writing board of clear plastic-drawing, pinned to  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. board. Can be used repeatedly with "chinagraph" pencil (wiped off with a soft, dry cloth). In use at Craig-y-Parc School. (6) & (7) Home-made foot-tray fits ordinary kitchen chair, adjustable for various heights by means of a dowel rod



(Photograph: Courtesy King's College Medical School)

## A Previous Tenant of 12 Park Crescent

IN 1877, when appointed Professor of Clinical Surgery at King's College, London, Lord Lister chose 12 Park Crescent as his home.

His nephew, Sir Rickman John Godlee, describes this choice:—

"The first thing to be done on coming to London was to decide where to live. Many houses were looked at both in and outside the recognised consultants' quarter, then almost limited by Harley Street and Wimpole Street to the north, Savile Row and Old Burlington Street to the south, and, for the more ambitious, reaching westward into the fashionable purlieus of Mayfair. All these seemed cabined and confined, compared with an Edinburgh Square, and at last No. 12 Park Crescent was fixed upon. Many brass plates now adorn the mansions in Portland Place, but at that time they were specially forbidden in the leases, and although one enterprising dentist had for long indicated his presence by his name inconspicuously printed round the bell-push, few attempts had been made by doctors to invade this aristocratic region: and no consultant had ever dreamt of Park Crescent,

which was looked upon as almost suburban. The medical world shook its head. Lister would never get any practice there. But for him it had two advantages: one, that the Park Crescent and Park Square Gardens were close at hand in which to meditate, while the more secluded Botanical Gardens were within a stone's throw; the other, that by going there he clearly showed his intention not to put himself obtrusively forward in competition with the London surgeons."

Here Lord Lister lived, worked and entertained for 35 years.

It was from this house, on 16th February, 1912, that his body was taken to a public funeral service at Westminster Abbey at which the choir sang Handel's beautiful anthem which includes the words:—

*"He delivered the poor that cried, the fatherless, and him that had none to help him."*

From 12 Park Crescent, this great man, with his teaching of antiseptic methods which led to an opening up of the new and wide fields of abdominal, thoracic and cerebral surgery, brought hope to the many.

John Le Prevost.





# ASSESSMENT

by Peter Davis

ON Monday, 3rd February, a small party of students converged on 12 Park Crescent. We had all assembled there from many different parts of the country to go on the 26th Assessment, which was to be held on this occasion at Westcliff-on-Sea.

## Hard Work

As the Course lasted only a week, it was fairly concentrated and a full timetable did not allow much time for one to look out of the window and gaze at the sea. Throughout the week we had several talks by various speakers on the different aspects of employment and some of the difficulties we would perhaps encounter if and when we were able to get a job. I cannot help feeling that most spastics tend to minimise these problems. Personally, I found it helpful to have these difficulties pointed out to me by people who understand them.

Each day, excepting Sunday, we had an hour's practical work, together with a number of pencil and paper problems. The tests were not difficult and actually we found them rather absorbing. We divided into small groups and everyone had the opportunity of trying their hand at everything.

## Factory Visits

On Tuesday afternoon we all went on a most interesting and instructive tour of EKCO Ltd., where we saw television sets being assembled.

The following afternoon we once again hired taxis which took us this time to a nearby Remploy factory, where shopping bags and leather brief cases were made.

This visit was very different from the previous one but it was equally enjoyable and we found it interesting to make comparisons between the two. The most striking differences which we noticed was that much less speed was required and that the work was not so competitive here. We had the opportunity of talking to many of the disabled workers and a chance to fire all our questions at the foreman.

On Thursday we had the "torture", which is specially reserved for Assessment Courses, the "One Minute Please" where each student is required to speak for one minute or longer on a given topic. I think most people would agree that this is one of the hardest things one is called upon to do during the Course.

## Fellowship

Our stay at Westcliff, however, was not all work and no play. We had a visit to the cinema, one or two painting sessions, and a social which brought a very happy week to its conclusion.

I think Assessment Courses are valuable because they provide an opportunity for a free exchange of views and the sharing of problems, although I do think that to a large extent it is up to the individual to find what benefit he or she can derive from such a Course. One of the most important aspects of it, I think, is that we can enjoy fellowship with each other. In my opinion the Assessment is carried out with fairness to the individual concerned and that even if one is unsuccessful in obtaining employment at the end, it does enable the person to have a clearer picture of his place in the community.



# Help! Where's Me Fire?

by Denis McCullough

*Another of Mr. McCullough's zany adventures with his unpredictable Betsy*

IF the boss had caught me that Saturday night, he'd have slung my cards at me. "Keep the heating boilers going over the weekend," he'd ordered, "It's rather cold now."

Ten minutes on a Saturday morning, that's all my boiler, Betsy, requires, and the same at night. But it was in an economical mood I fed Betsy that morning, short coke ration, and leaving the dampers open instead of shut—in theory, maximum heat for minimum fuel.

Betsy had her revenge, burning away merrily, and leaving me six inches of ash, but no fire. There was nothing else for it but to rake her out. And me in a charcoal suit, going to meet the lads, some hope now. Mother would skin me alive if she knew, even with overalls and a khaki coat on.

Speed was essential as part of the building was in use by a deaf and dumb club, so heat must be maintained. First a tea chest full of scrap paper into the empty grate, some of it dropped on to the remains of the hot coke that I'd just cleared out, starting little fires around my feet, but Denis wasn't fiddling while Rome burned. No, Denis's crooked little fingers were working just as fast as Denis's crooked little brain could make them.

Now for the sticks, kept under the stairs. There's a whist drive going on, screaming kids all over the place—take me for some kind of a ghoul. Sticks on top of the paper, now a match. "Where's me matches? Ah yes, suit coat pocket."

Up she goes. Now for the coke, four or five shovels full, just to redden, but do they? No they don't, not with the clammy excuse for a wind wisping through the open window of the lean-to that shelters Betsy.

There she labours, full 20 minutes. I rake the ash out from beneath her, to give her more air—the place is full of ash, and I'm sweating like a bull. But Betsy is dying.

I run for sticks and the screaming kids think I'm tight, wishful thinking. Rake off the dead coke, throw the sticks on to the red patch. Betsy's laughing again, just to fool me. The first shovel-full of fresh coke, and out she goes, stone dead.

Nine-thirty, and the lads will have given me up. "A blonde" they'll be thinking, but Betsy is only sooty-brown on top. Down again on my hunkers, I dare hardly look along the fire bars. Yes, Betsy's making it. I tickle her tentatively with the L-ended poker. Her splutters and giggles give way to a protesting hiss as I pile on fresh coke to that already reddened.

Minutes or hours, what does it matter now, sitting on an upturned box. My tummy's whirling like a flywheel and lighting a pipe isn't going to help it. Just give Betsy time. Which'll be what I'll get when Mam gets hold of me. "Put a clean shirt on," she said. The collar is thick with ash now, and there's a stream of sweat running down my back. No bets taken against a good thumping when I get home, eventually.

Betsy is beginning to smile now. The whist fiends have all departed, and the old stone building is quiet, although I am too tired to be scared by its mysterious creakings.

Well m'dear, I've had enough of your capers for the last three hours. In goes the six-foot poker, spreading the red coke thinly over the whole grate. Now for it—will she continue to sizzle and burn as I load fresh fuel on? It should satisfy her till morning.

Shut the draught door and the damper, open the vent at the back of the boiler. If I'd done that this morning . . . well. . . . Slide into my coat, it's fair for once. Bang the big front door shut, rattle it to make sure. A reveller passes, singing his unsteady way home, and so do I wind my unsteady, tired way, into the night.

## THE BRYN MOR HOTEL



## Holidays for Handicapped Persons

Started last year, by Mr. and Mrs. Penfold, S.R.N., this Hotel specializes in giving holidays for Handicapped persons. Accompanied if severely disabled, or unaccompanied if able to manage themselves, or with a little help. However, the Proprietors and their staff are willing to help where needed, at all times. The Hotel, which overlooks the sea, is situated almost on the beach, which is safe and clean. Those wishing to bathe can do so directly from the Hotel. All bedrooms, lounge, and so on, are on the ground level, and easily accessible by wheelchair. The bedrooms are warm, and have h. & c. water, spring interior mattresses, and various aids for the disabled.

Dinas Dinlle is a small seaside resort, set in the mountains of North Wales, but at the same time flat. In case of wet weather, there are many indoor games, and entertainments are arranged. Tours from the Hotel can also be arranged.

*Tariff and Brochure will be sent on request, and special terms for block bookings.*

**DINAS DINLLE · LLANDWROG · CAERNARVON**



# Letters to the Editor

## SHIRLEY KEENE

Dear Editor,

We are very grateful to Miss Keene for coming to speak to our Club members last Wednesday: it was a cold evening and so it was particularly kind of her to give up the comfort of her own fireside for us.

We enjoyed her talk tremendously: what she said made us very thankful for our complete health and strength. We were full of admiration for the way she has overcome her disabilities: so much was this so that some of us did not realise she was a spastic until she said so.

Please thank her for us and express our grateful appreciation.

MRS. EILEEN WRIGHT,  
Hon. Secretary,  
Glebe Hall Young Wives  
and Business Girls Club,  
Kenton.

*This nice letter marks an end of another stage in Miss Keene's career. As many people know she has now given up lecturing, except for a few engagements already booked, and if you want a lecturer to speak to your Club or Group you should write to Mr. William Hargreaves at the Spastics Society, and he will fix this up for you.*

*Miss Keene has joined the staff of the Industrial Centres Secretary, and is busy equipping and furnishing—often by hand—the many hostels for spastics now going up all over England. So those of you who live in them can be very sure of a comfortable and attractive home.*

## THE DOUBLY HANDICAPPED

Dear Editor,

In your December issue I read with great interest the article written by Mrs. A. B. Smith entitled "Help for the Mentally Handicapped".

I also read the reply of the parent member.

We know of the great work being done by members of local Groups and the people who are doing so much to raise the money to make the all-important work of the National Society possible.

There is no doubt that in the larger cities the work being done comes more

to the public eye than in this part of the country.

When one becomes the parent of a spastic child it comes, as with any handicap, as a shock and it is then and in later years as the child grows that one needs the contact and experience and help of the Spastics Society either directly or through its local groups.

To those of us who have uneducable and severely mentally handicapped children, first, we do realise the fact that those able to be educated to take their place in society must have a first call: but secondly, it would be wonderful to see more done for children who grade as mentally handicapped and uneducable.

Many of these children are placed in mental homes, where in many cases there are still long waiting lists of other mentally handicapped children.

This applies in our own county I know.

We have been registered with a local group since its formation and they have kindly arranged for physiotherapy, but, where groups are far distant and there are other children in the family it is not easy to take badly handicapped children to the group itself.

My two sons aged fifteen and seven are now in a mental hospital and split from the rest of the family as we just could not manage to give them all the attention they required.

There are other spastic children, also at this hospital. Whilst I agree there is a terrific job being done, there is room for more and I would welcome news of a home for severely handicapped spastic children in Somerset.

Thank you Mrs. Smith for your letter, I think there is need for **more** work on behalf of the parents of severely handicapped children, and I am sure that Committee members view "our" (parents) viewpoints with all fairness.

Yours sincerely,  
EDGAR E. POOLE,  
Wellington,  
Somerset.

## DONKEY DERBY

Dear Editor,

I am writing to tell you that in Dalton on the 27th June this year there is going to be the third Donkey Derby that the Dalton Branch of the Cumber-

land, Westmorland and Furness Spastic Society has organised. The Donkey Derbies in the past two years have been very successful in raising money.

In last year's Donkey Derby I helped with a roundabout built by Mr. Thurman who is the caretaker at Dowdales School. He is thinking of a new idea for this year's Donkey Derby.

In the Hon. Secretary's garden last year at Christmas I helped to build a fountain, it raised £10. In Christmas this year the Honorary is planning to build a fairy grotto.

Mr. Lennie, who is my form teacher, sells plastic flowers, and is a member of the Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness Spastic Society. He organised a plastic sale in November last year and got a profit of over £50. Spastics made £1,000 last year.

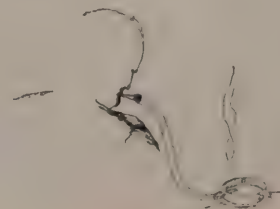
ERIC BARNES,  
Ireleth House,  
Beckside Road,  
Dalton-in-Furness,  
Lancs.

## SMOKER'S AID

Dear Editor,

While visiting Black Notley Hospital today I noticed something which I thought might be helpful to some of your readers. An elderly gentleman unable to help himself much, was thoroughly enjoying a smoke by using a simple yet clever contrivance invented by his thoughtful grandson. First a flat and heavy ashtray with a hole through, which firmly held a cigarette, the end of which was in a holder attached to a long light flexible tube ending in a cigarette holder which this gentleman held in his teeth and as he drew and puffed, the cigarette smoked itself at the other end. Before he had had this, the cigarettes would get soggy and likely to drop. It seemed to give him great pleasure and also seemed so safe.

MISS SIMONE KEMSLEY,  
Bray House,  
Earls Court,  
Colchester,  
Essex.





## '62 INDEPENDENCE

Dear Editor,

With reference to the letter from Dr. Firman of the Nottingham '62 Club in the March edition of the SPASTICS NEWS, in which he commented on the '62 Club (so called) that is being run for the benefit of spastics in Cardiff.

Dr. Firman certainly hit the nail right on the head and I might remark, had only beaten me to it by a short head.

The London '62 Club was very put out by reading the Cardiff article (Jan.) about all the things that *other* people had done for our fellow spastics in Wales. It sounds very jolly and so on, but it is not, as Dr. Firman remarked, the spirit in which the '62 Clubs are formed. The Constitution of our Club says:—

**"THIS CLUB SHALL BE RUN BY, AND FOR ADULT SPASTICS. ALL OFFICERS SHALL BE SPASTICS. ONLY SPASTIC MEMBERS ARE ALLOWED TO VOTE AT THE A.G.M."**

We have at the moment only two members who are not spastic, and one of them is a disabled person anyway.

I know some people are going to say: "Oh, but you get assistance from the Society." Well, WE DON'T! We use the H.Q. Conference Room for meetings and that is all. Whilst we are grateful for this we are not really happy about it and are hoping to get a place of our own some time in the future.

The '62 Club Committee and myself are willing to cross swords with anyone who tries to put forward ideas that don't seem to fit into our programme, as Mr. Hargreaves has found out on one or two occasions. Over the past two years we had had coach trips (the coaches booked by us) and theatre trips (tickets booked by us). All finances are dealt with by spastics either on the Committee or through the Treasurer (who is a spastic).

If I may advise our boys and girls in Wales: *Make a Declaration of Independence*—after all, the Yanks did it. Thank the "splendid group of leaders, drawn from a good cross-section of the community" for their trouble, and firmly tell them you want to run the Club. If this is not done—well, the Cardiff Club is just not a '62 Club, and should not be referred to as one of the '62 Clubs. I think that this is only fair to the rest of us. Several of us feel rather strongly about this matter.

We do wish Cardiff all the best of luck with the Club—and don't be scared of making a mistake! You will only do it once, then learn better.

PETER WEST,  
Hon. Chairman, '62 Club,  
London.

## THE OXFORDSHIRE '62 CLUB

Dear Editor,

The New Day Centre of the Oxfordshire Spastics Welfare Society was the meeting place on 19th February of a group of spastics and their friends to endeavour to form a '62 Club, which has been so successful in other areas.

Mr. W. M. C. Hargreaves, from the Spastics Society, came to explain the aims and ideals of the '62 Club which was very interesting.

A committee was formed and a social arranged.

We have to thank the Oxfordshire Spastic Welfare Society for the use of their lovely new Day Centre at the Churchill Hospital; now we look forward to more members and associate members whatever their handicap.

JUDITH SMART.

## LIFE IN A SHELTERED WORKSHOP

Dear Editor,

I work in a Sheltered Workshop at South Ruislip.

The work we do is for outside firms, and the jobs we have vary from light engineering and press work to packing and other light jobs.

Just recently we have had a lot of educational films. Some of them have been very interesting and have been about India, Switzerland and other countries. Our Manager is Mr. E. L. Hedden; his assistant is Mr. M. Holmes and the Supervisor is Miss H. Wheeler. There are about 30 disabled people in the workshop. They come from Greenford, Ealing, Kenton, Watford and other places.

We have had visitors from many parts of the world, Israel, India and Switzerland.

Every year we have our annual Open Day, and parents come to see their sons' and daughters' work.

FRED RICKARD.

## PEN FRIEND

Dear Editor,

I would like a pen friend, either polio or spastic, and either a girl or boy, aged between 20 and 25.

I myself am a C.P. and my interests range from politics to railways both model or otherwise, also classical music. I have an Invacar Three Wheel car.

I am 23 years old and if anyone with the same interests (and maybe a few more interests besides what I mentioned) would like to write to the address given, I would be very pleased to answer them.

S. R. LANCASTER,  
46 Eden Mount,  
Leeds 4.

## PEN FRIEND

Yvonne Harrison, aged 23, would like a boy pen friend about her own age.

Yvonne is a member of the local Spastic Centre's Speed on Youth Club; her main interests are social and pop music. She writes very short letters at present and is keen to practice letter-writing with a pen friend who feels the same.

Write to her c/o Mr. John Boddy, 40 Taunton Drive, Bitterne, Southampton.

## REVENUE RECOGNITION—AT LAST!

Dear Editor,

I thought you would like to hear about a spastic friend of mine.

His name is Mr. Douglas Thrower, of 7 Alliance Road, Plaistow, London, E.13.

The greatest thing that has ever happened in Doug's life is that at the age of 35 years he has got full-time employment at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, doing tea-making, time-checking and toilet-cleansing. This is Doug's first job, and his biggest thrill was to tell us that he had drawn his first wage packet—and, best of all, he was paying income tax.

MRS. M. HERSOM,  
Maidenhead.

## NOTHING TO DO BUT SLEEP

Home from a concert, and late to bed. Nothing to do but sleep.

The theme of an item runs through your head.

Nothing to do but sleep.

Alan Argue,  
Prested Hall.



# OVALTINE

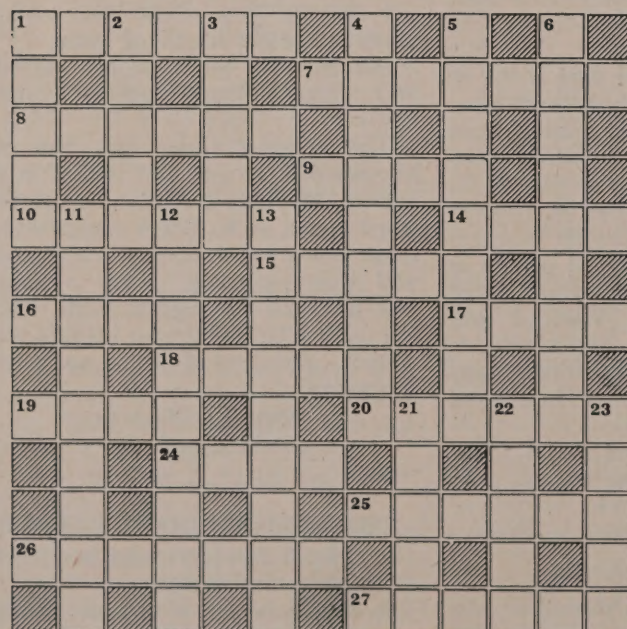


the right hot drink to round off the day



P134B

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 38



### ACROSS

1. Divine thirst quencher! 6.
7. Alias Hermes. 7.

8. Least innocent of popular old songs. 6.
9. The plot is to some extent a snare and a delusion. 4.
10. The condition induced by 1 ac. perhaps. 6.
14. Common implement at the landing stage. 4.
15. Round of applause instigated by smelling salts? 5.
16. Read the meter. 4.
17. He braced his vessel against the future. 4.
18. Linesmen? 5.
19. See 10. 4.
20. The seat of ill-temper? 6.
24. By this is a parrot educated in part. 4.
25. Take back a garbled version of 1 ac. 6.
26. Salome's Herod. 7.
27. Astute immobility personified. 6.

### DOWN

1. "Write loyal canton of condemned love,  
And sing them loud even in the dead of . . .," Twelfth Night. 5.
2. A friend in Mincing Lane maybe. 5.
3. The salt of classic wit. 5.
4. So Olivia must have seemed to Count Orsino. 9.
5. A long coat cut in unusual shape. 9.
6. Yet it may carry papers of long lawsuits. 9.
11. "No . . . made, but sent to my account  
With all my imperfections on my head." Hamlet. 9.
12. Matchless apple. 9.
13. Necessary as ten lies. 9.
21. Irishman holding the Frenchman in a fold. 5.
22. Levy with the utmost precision. 5.
23. Inter the chemical. 5.



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Headmaster:  
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